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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Thomas Hagan et al.

Serial No. 09/747,331

Group Art Unit 2151

Filed December 21, 2000

Examiner

For PRIVACY AND SECURITY METHOD AND  
SYSTEM FOR A WORLD-WIDE-WEB SITE

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims 80 and 81.

- 1       80. A method for accessing personal information, associated with a
- 2       plurality of users and stored in a computer system, in a manner that
- 3       protects the privacy of users, wherein each user has a personal identifier
- 4       and a plurality of anonymous identifiers, comprising the steps of:
- 5             prompting a user for the user's personal identifier;
- 6             determining a first anonymous identifier from information derived
- 7       from the user's personal identifier;
- 8             accessing data associated with the user stored in a first database
- 9       using the first anonymous identifier;